



# Keystone Ag Digest



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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<i>This publication may be found on the Internet at <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa">www.nass.usda.gov/pa</a> and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."</i>			

## HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 1,180,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms on June 1, 2008. This estimated inventory was 40,000 head or 3.5 percent more than the March 2008 inventory, and 60,000 head or 5.0 percent above the June 2007 inventory. Market hog inventory, at 1,085,000 head, increased 45,000 head since March; while breeding stock inventory, at 95,000 head, was down 5,000 head from both March and last June. The March-May 2008 pig crop totaled 406,000 head, down 4,000 head from June a year earlier, and down 3,000 head from the December 2007-February 2008 pig crop. There were 43,000 sows farrowed during the quarter, 2,000 fewer than the previous year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 45 percent of the breeding herd. The average litter rate was 9.45 pigs per litter, down 0.05 pig from March, but up 0.35 pig from the 9.10 pigs per litter in June the previous year. Pennsylvania hog farmers intend to have 43,000 sows farrow both during the June-August 2008 period and the September-November quarter, 5,000 fewer than actually farrowed in June-August 2007 and 8,000 fewer than actually farrowed in the September-November period one year ago.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on June 1, 2008, was 67.7 million head. This was up 6 percent from June 1, 2007, and up 1 percent from March 1, 2008. Breeding inventory, at 6.07 million head, was down 1 percent from last year, and down 1 percent from the

previous quarter. Market hog inventory, at 61.6 million head, was up 7 percent from last year, and up 1 percent from last quarter.

The March-May 2008 U.S. pig crop, at 29.0 million head, was up 4 percent from 2007, and up 9 percent from 2006. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 3.09 million head, up 2 percent from 2007 and up 6 percent from 2006. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 51 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.38 for the March-May 2008 period, compared to 9.20 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.70 to 9.40. U.S. hog producers intend to have 3.07 million sows farrow during the June-August 2008 quarter, down 2 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2007, but up 5 percent from 2006. Intended farrowings for September-November 2008, at 3.05 million sows, are down 4 percent from 2007, but up 3 percent from 2006. The total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 41 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 39 percent last year.

## June Agricultural Survey Results

*This issue contains results from the 2008 June Agricultural Survey. We wish to thank those farm operators who help make these reports possible.*

## HOGS & PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBER, JUNE 1, 2007-2008

Item	Pennsylvania			United States		
	2007	2008	2008/07	2007	2008	2008/07
	(000) Head		Percent	(000) Head		Percent
Inventory - June 1:						
All Hogs & Pigs.....	1,120	1,180	105	63,951	67,661	106
Kept For Breeding .....	100	95	95	6,120	6,069	99
Market.....	1,020	1,085	106	57,830	61,591	107
Market Hogs & Pigs By Weight Groups:						
Under 60 Pounds .....	300	330	110	21,782	22,587	104
60-119 Pounds .....	305	315	103	14,339	15,167	106
120-179 Pounds .....	225	235	104	11,790	12,907	109
180 Pounds and Over .....	190	205	108	9,920	10,931	110
Sows Farrowing:						
December <sup>1</sup> -February .....	44	43	98	2,905	3,067	106
March-May.....	45	43	96	3,033	3,092	102
June-August <sup>2</sup> .....	48	43	90	3,132	3,070	98
September- November <sup>2</sup> .....	51	43	84	3,180	3,052	96
Pig Crop:						
December 1/-February .....	396	409	103	26,396	28,352	107
March-May.....	410	406	99	27,896	29,000	104
	Number			Number		
Pigs Per Litter:						
December 1/-February .....	9.00	9.50	106	9.09	9.24	102
March-May.....	9.10	9.45	104	9.20	9.38	102

<sup>1</sup> December preceding year. <sup>2</sup> Intentions.

## **JUNE FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX JUMPED 11 POINTS FROM LAST MONTH**

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in June, at 162 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 11 points (7.3 percent) from May. The Crop Index is up 19 points (11 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 3 points (2.2 percent). Producers received higher prices for corn, soybeans, milk, and lettuce and lower prices for strawberries, cantaloupes, and wheat. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell.

Increased monthly marketings of wheat, hay, grapes, and cantaloupes offset decreased marketings of tomatoes, oranges, strawberries, and sweet corn.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 25 points (18 percent) from June 2007. The Food Commodities Index, at 157, increased 10 points (6.8 percent) from last month and increased 19 points (14 percent) from June 2007.

### **PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, JUNE 2008**

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Jun 2007	May 2008	Jun 2008 <sup>1</sup>	Jun 2007	May 2008	Jun 2008 <sup>1</sup>
		<i>Dollars</i>					
Corn.....	Bu.	4.32	5.47	6.60	3.53	5.28	6.12
Wheat, Winter <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	5.00	8.17	8.00
Oats .....	Bu.	2.17	4.55	4.25	2.54	3.63	3.64
Barley <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	3.30	4.52	4.70
Soybeans <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	7.51	12.10	13.50
Hay, Dry All .....	Ton	140.00	199.00	199.00	131.00	166.00	161.00
Dry Alfalfa .....	Ton	156.00	222.00	223.00	137.00	177.00	172.00
Dry Other.....	Ton	132.00	192.00	194.00	111.00	134.00	130.00
Apples, Fresh Use.....	Lb.	-	-	-	0.296	0.339	0.408
Cows, Slaughter .....	Cwt.	50.70	55.60	57.60	50.10	53.90	53.80
Steers & Heifers .....	Cwt.	89.00	87.30	88.20	93.20	95.90	95.90
Calves .....	Cwt.	117.00	118.00	116.00	124.00	119.00	120.00
Barrows & Gilts.....	Cwt.	49.80	51.50	49.70	55.10	56.60	54.70
Sows.....	Cwt.	36.20	26.40	29.80	37.40	25.10	27.50
Sheep .....	Cwt.	38.00	39.00	-	28.20	27.70	-
Lambs.....	Cwt.	110.00	126.00	-	96.80	100.00	-
Eggs <sup>3</sup> .....	Doz.	0.460	0.670	0.890	0.499	0.698	0.927
Milk, Fluid Grade .....	Cwt.	21.30	19.50	-	20.20	18.40	19.40
Manufactured Grade <sup>4</sup> .....	Cwt.	-	-	-	19.80	18.70	19.50
All .....	Cwt.	21.30	19.50	20.70	20.20	18.40	19.40
Milk Cows <sup>5</sup> .....	Head	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. <sup>3</sup> Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. <sup>4</sup> PA is no longer published due to insufficient manufacturing grade milk volume. <sup>5</sup> Quarterly (Jan., Apr., Jul., Oct.). <sup>6</sup> Insufficient apple sales to establish a price.

### **EGG PRODUCTION**

Egg production in Pennsylvania during May 2008 totaled 521 million eggs, down 3 percent from the 536 million eggs produced in May 2007. The total number of layers averaged 21.5 million during May, a 4 percent drop from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,420 eggs during the month, an increase of 22 eggs from May 2007.

Egg-type chicks hatched during May 2008 totaled 5.5 million, up 21 percent from the 4.5 million hatched the previous May. Broiler-type chicks hatched totaled 15.5 million during May 2008, up 6 percent from the same month last year.

### **TART CHERRY PRODUCTION**

Pennsylvania's 2008 tart cherry production is forecast at 3.0 million pounds, 14 percent below last year's production of 3.5 million pounds and down 42 percent from 2006. Freezing temperatures in the spring reduced the potential for a large crop.

U.S. tart production for 2008 is forecast at 177 million pounds, 30 percent below 2007 production and 33 percent above production in 2006. Michigan, the largest producing state, expects a crop of 135 million pounds, a decrease of 30 percent from the 2007 crop and 29 percent below production in 2006.

### **MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY**

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008	May 2007	Apr 2008	May 2008
Layers.....	Thous.	22,348	21,510	21,525	342,469	341,203	340,319
Eggs Per 100 Layers.....	Number	2,398	2,343	2,420	2,226	2,163	2,226
Eggs Produced.....	Million	536	504	521	7,622	7,381	7,574
Chick Hatch-Egg Type .....	Thous.	4,499	5,331	5,463	38,080	41,051	42,724
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type .....	Thous.	14,528	15,173	15,468	835,773	797,481	823,718
Poults Placed .....	Thous.	-	-	-	27,266	25,863	26,574

## CROP PROSPECTS - JUNE 1, 2008 WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Year	Pennsylvania				United States				Unit
		Acreage (000)		Production		Acreage (000)		Production		
		Planted	Harvested	Per Acre	(000)	Planted	Harvested	Per Acre	(000)	
Corn .....	2007	1,410	980 <sup>1</sup>	128.0	125,440	93,600	86,542 <sup>1</sup>	151.1	13,073,893	Bu.
	2008	1,370	950 <sup>1</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	87,327	78,940 <sup>1</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Bu.
Sorghum .....	2007	15	3 <sup>1</sup>	56.0	168	7,718	6,805 <sup>1</sup>	74.2	504,993	Bu.
	2008	16	4 <sup>1</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	7,271	6,405 <sup>1</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Bu.
Wheat, Winter .....	2007	170	155	58.0	8,990	44,987	35,952	42.2	1,515,989	Bu.
	2008	195	185	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	46,605	40,252	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	Bu.
Oats .....	2007	115	80	56.0	4,480	3,760	1,505	60.9	91,599	Bu.
	2008	110	80	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	3,467	1,443	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	Bu.
Barley .....	2007	55	42	73.0	3,066	4,020	3,508	60.4	211,825	Bu.
	2008	65	55	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	4,130	3,640	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	Bu.
Soybeans .....	2007	425	420	41.0	17,220	63,631	62,820	41.2	2,585,207	Bu.
	2008	445	440	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	74,533	72,121	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Bu.
Hay, Dry Alfalfa .....	2007	-	600	3.00	1,800	-	21,670	3.35	72,575	Ton
	2008	-	520	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	-	20,778	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Ton
Hay, Dry Other .....	2007	-	1,200	2.00	2,400	-	39,955	1.95	77,729	Ton
	2008	-	1,230	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	-	39,661	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Ton
Tobacco, All .....	2007	-	7.9	2,050	7,175	-	356.0	2,187	778,624	Lbs.
	2008	-	8.8	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	-	348.0	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	Lbs.

<sup>1</sup> Harvested for grain, remainder of planted acres for silage and other uses. <sup>2</sup> Not available until July. <sup>3</sup> Not available until August.

### JUNE ACREAGE

The initial data for the annual Acreage report was collected during the first two weeks of June, before the majority of the flooding occurred in the Midwest. In an effort to more accurately determine how much of the planted area producers still intend to harvest for grain, NASS re-interviewed 1,150 farmers last week in flood-affected areas of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin.

While many farmers are still assessing their damage and their options, this re-interview process provided a first look at how much of the planted corn and soybeans may remain standing for harvest.

NASS's August 12 Crop Production report will contain the first 2008 estimates of corn and soybean yield and production. To help ensure that these estimates are based on the best information available, NASS will supplement its standard survey activities by re-interviewing approximately 9,000 farmers in the flood-affected areas. These re-interviews will be conducted in the middle of July, allowing time for flooded fields to dry and for farmers to fully assess their options. Additionally, we will increase the number of corn and soybean fields selected for objective field measurements.

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Based on acreage planted by June 1, 2008 and intended acres that remained to be planted, the Keystone state's farmers expect to harvest more acres of sorghum for grain, soybeans, winter wheat, barley, and tobacco than in 2007. Fewer acres of dry hay and corn for grain are expected to be harvested in 2008, while oat acreage for harvest is expected to be unchanged.

Corn acreage planted for all purposes is estimated at 1,370,000, down 40,000 acres from last year. Growers expect to harvest 950,000 acres of corn for grain, down 30,000 acres or 3 percent from a year ago. Sorghum acreage planted for all purposes is estimated at 16,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from a year ago. Growers expect to harvest 4,000 acres for grain, which is also up 1,000 acres from last year. Soybean acreage planted is estimated at 445,000 acres, up 20,000 from last year. Eight percent of this year's soybean acres are expected to be planted following another harvested crop, down from 19 percent last year. Soybean acreage for harvest is estimated at 440,000 acres for 2008, up 5 percent from the 420,000 acres harvested last year.

Oat acreage planted in 2008 is estimated at 110,000, down 5,000 acres or 4 percent from a year ago. Growers expect to harvest 80,000 acres for grain, which is unchanged from last year. Winter wheat acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 185,000 acres, up 30,000 acres or 19 percent from last year. Barley acreage for harvest, at 55,000, is up 13,000 acres or 31 percent from 2007.

All acres for harvest of dry hay in 2008 are estimated at 1,750,000, down 50,000 acres or 3 percent from last year. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for dry hay, at 520,000 acres, are down 80,000 acres or 13 percent from last year. All other dry hay, at 1,230,000 acres, is up 30,000 acres from last year.

Tobacco acres for harvest increased 11 percent from a year ago with growers expecting to harvest 8,800 acres, compared to 7,900 acres last year. Of these acres, 2,000 acres are expected to be Southern Maryland type tobacco, 2,000 acres of Pennsylvania seedleaf type tobacco, and the remaining 4,800 acres expected to be light air-cured burley tobacco.

At the United States level, corn planted for all purposes is estimated at 87.3 million acres, down 7 percent from last year. Despite the decrease, corn planted acreage is the second highest since 1946, behind last year's total of 93.6 million acres. Growers expect to harvest 78.9 million acres of corn for grain, down 9 percent from 2007. Farmers increased corn plantings 1.31 million acres from their March intentions. The 2008 soybean planted area is estimated at 74.5 million acres, up 17 percent from last year, but 1 percent below the record high acreage in 2006. Area for harvest, at 72.1 million acres, is up 15 percent from 2007. Area planted to sorghum in 2008 is estimated at 7.27 million acres, down 6 percent from 2007. Area to be harvested for grain is forecast at 6.41 million acres, also down 6 percent from last year.

The 2008 winter wheat planted area, estimated at 46.6 million acres, is down slightly from the previous estimate, but up 4 percent from 2007. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 40.3 million acres, up slightly from the June forecast, and up 12 percent from last year. Acres seeded for the 2008 oat crop totaled 3.47 million acres, showing a continued decline from the 3.76 million acres planted in 2007. This 8 percent decrease from the previous year will bring the oat crop to another record low level. Barley growers seeded 4.13 million acres for the 2008 crop, up 3 percent from the 4.02 million acres seeded last year. Acres for harvest, at 3.64 million, are up 4 percent from 2007.

Farmers expect to harvest 60.4 million acres of dry hay in 2008, down 2 percent from 2007. Expected harvested area of dry alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures, at 20.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from 2007. Expected area for harvest of all other types of dry hay totals 39.7 million acres, down 1 percent from the 40.0 million acres harvested in 2007.

All tobacco acres for harvest in 2008 are estimated at 348,040 acres, down 2 percent from 2007 and 1 percent below the March intentions. Acreage decreases from 2007 in flue-cured, burly, and shade-grown tobacco more than offset increases in all other types.

## GRAIN STOCKS

Pennsylvania's **corn** stored in all positions on June 1, 2008 was 32.3 million bushels, up 26 percent from last year's level of 25.7 million bushels. On-farm corn stocks amounted to 26 million bushels up 24 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks were 6.3 million bushels.

**Wheat** stored off farms totaled 2.4 million bushels, down 58 percent from last year. **Soybeans** stored off farms totaled 1.6 million bushels down 37 percent. **Barley** stored off farms was 169 thousand bushels, up 39,000 bushels. **Oats** stored in all positions were 1.2 million bushels, 900 thousand on farm and 249 thousand off farm.

Pennsylvania's on-farm stocks of corn and oats are the only two commodities published; all other commodities are not published separately but instead are included with an unallocated National total.

For the **United States**, **corn** stocks in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 4.03 billion bushels, up 14 percent from June 1, 2007. Of the total stocks, 1.97 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 8 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.06 billion bushels, are up 21

percent from a year ago. The March - May 2008 quarter indicated disappearance is 2.83 billion bushels, compared with 2.53 billion bushels during the same period last year.

**Soybeans** stored in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 676 million bushels, down 38 percent from June 1, 2007. On-farm stocks totaled 227 million bushels, down 55 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 449 million bushels, are down 24 percent from last June. Indicated disappearance for the March - May 2008 quarter totaled 758 million bushels, up 9 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All **wheat** stored in all positions on June 1, 2008 totaled 306 million bushels, down 33 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 25.6 million bushels, down 65 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 280 million bushels, are down 27 percent from a year ago. The March - May 2008 quarter indicated disappearance is 404 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

### PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES: GRAIN STOCKS - JUNE 1, 2008 WITH COMPARISON

Grain	Year	Pennsylvania			United States		
		On Farms	Off Farms <sup>1</sup>	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms <sup>1</sup>	Total All Positions
(000) Bushel							
Corn.....	2007	21,000	4,683	25,683	1,826,600	1,706,843	3,533,443
	2008	26,000	6,346	32,346	1,970,900	2,057,117	4,028,017
Wheat .....	2007	<sup>2</sup>	5,609	<sup>2</sup>	73,190	382,963	456,153
	2008	<sup>2</sup>	2,367	<sup>2</sup>	25,635	279,983	305,618
Soybeans .....	2007	<sup>2</sup>	2,568	<sup>2</sup>	500,000	592,185	1,092,185
	2008	<sup>2</sup>	1,618	<sup>2</sup>	226,600	449,491	676,091
Barley .....	2007	<sup>2</sup>	130	<sup>2</sup>	14,580	54,300	68,880
	2008	<sup>2</sup>	169	<sup>2</sup>	9,950	58,275	68,225
Oats.....	2007	1,700	341	2,041	18,400	32,198	50,598
	2008	900	249	1,149	16,100	50,704	66,804

<sup>1</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. <sup>2</sup> Included in U.S. totals.



*County estimates for 2008 can now be found online for hay, forage, barley, oats, wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum.*

*Check out NASS's homepage at [www.usda.gov/nass](http://www.usda.gov/nass) and click on 'QuickSTATS'*



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